* Launching of Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) forraising the yield potential of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize.

* Announcement of enhanced Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) well before the commencement of sowing season to enable farmers to decide on the choice of crops to be grown by them.

* Agricultural diversification through horticulture and floriculture.

* Development/strengthening of modern agricultural markets through creation of space for attracting investment from private and cooperative sectors for the development of direct marketing and contract farming.

* Re-orientation of the credit facility, especially production credit, to rural and farmer households at concessional rate of interest.

* Re-vitalization of Agricultural research to ensure full exploitation of scientific advances for improving productivity according to agro-climatic conditions.

* Re-vitalization of Agricultural extension system through Krishi Vigyan Kendras in each district and making extension system more farmer friendly by way of autonomous institutional arrangements for technological dissemination through "Agricultural Technology Management Agency" (ATMA) at district level.

* The newly approved National Rainfed Area Authority is expected to deal with the problems faced by rainfed areas.

* National Horticulture Mission is under implementation to boost area and production of horticulture crops through establishing backward and forward linkages.

Increase in farm insurance

430. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are likely to spend an additional Rs. 250 crores in 2007-08 on farm insurance over and above the average of Rs. 650 crores spent on the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS):

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Scheme is likely to be implemented in mainly dry land and drought prone districts susceptible to farmer suicides; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Government's liability mainly depends upon the extent of damage to the insured crops during the year. Budget 2007 has a provision of Rs. 500.00 crores for National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) for the year 2007-08.

(b) NAIS is applicable in all areas including dry land and drought prone areas.

(c) Does not arise.

Inclusion of agriculture in the Seventh Schedule

431. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to amend the Constitution so as to include the agricultrue in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the constraints/problems being faced in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The Revised Draft National Policy for Farmers submitted by the National Commission on Farmers had *inter alia* recommended for inclusion of agriculture in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. Though State Governments are responsible for implementation of policies and programmes for development of agriculture in their respective States, the Union Government plays a crucial role in the provision of research and education, credit, risk management and other measures to support the State Governments for development of agriculture through various schemes and programmes. It